Greetings!

We are excited to announce the launch of this first NACP Insights newsletter. Through monthly communications, we hope to keep you informed of NACP’s progress towards achieving its mission. As we work together, it is important that we all understand the ongoing activities in the different parts of NACP. This issue describes the three committees that guide NACP’s efforts by providing objective overviews, sharing the members’ personal and professional experience and expertise, and bringing different perspectives to the partnership.

Future NACP Insights will give updates on our research projects, trainees, and core activities.

The Community Advisory Committee provides a vital link to Arizona’s tribal communities. Miguel Flores, the committee Chair, expresses this well: “Lios Em Chaniavu (Greetings), Hope and pray this message finds you and your families in good health and in good spirits. First, I would like to thank our CAC members for ALL YOUR HARD WORK, dedication, knowledge, and gifts you have shared through all these years. As we continue to address cancer education, screening, treatment and research, it is important to continue to address these issues through a cultural lens to provide better outcomes for our people and communities. I look forward to continuing to work with you all, and doing good things for our people.”

The Community Advisory Committee members review submitted research proposals and evaluate their potential benefit to tribal communities. During regular meetings with the Community Advisory Committee members, NACP leadership and staff provide updates on the research projects, training, and outreach activities.

The Internal Advisory Committee connects the partnership to leaders at Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona. As Manley Begay explains, “As a group, our members bring varied personal and professional training and experiences which mesh well with NACP’s work on community-engaged research projects. With our training and experiences, we help recognize what parts of NACP are working well, and suggest ways to improve the areas that could work better as NACP addresses the health disparity needs in Native communities.”

After NACP solicits new research proposals, the Internal Advisory Committee evaluates these and provides a recommendation of the best proposals. The Internal Advisory Committee is pictured below and includes four non-voting representatives from the Partnership (Jani Ingram, Margaret Briehl, Maria Jackson, and Maria Lluria-Prevatt, not shown).

The Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP) is a partnership of Native American communities, Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona Cancer Center, and the National Cancer Institute to address cancer health disparities in Native Americans.
The Program Steering Committee provides a network of national experts to guide the partnership’s progress. Isabel Scarinci, a committee member for over ten years explains, “We bring our experience and expertise working with other populations experiencing cancer disparities to support NACP in their efforts. In fact, this is a co-learning process as we take the wonderful work that NACP does back home to our institutions and states, and, hopefully, together we can move the needle on attenuating cancer disparities.” The committee has six members who lead other U54 grants like NACP, conduct health disparities research, or lead training programs for underserved populations. Another three members work at the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, which is part of the National Cancer Institute within the National Institutes of Health.

The Program Steering Committee is responsible for conducting an annual, comprehensive review of NACP’s progress towards its goals. It reviews reports prepared by the leaders of each part of the partnership and the Community Advisory and Internal Advisory Committees. The committee members review and endorse recommendations for new research proposals, based on scientific merit and alignment with NACP’s overall aims. The members of the PSC are shown below.

Contact Information and Websites

Jani Ingram, PI at NAU
Jani.ingram@nau.edu
(928) 523-7877

Margaret Briehl, PI at UACC
mbriehl@pathology.arizona.edu
(520) 626-6827

NAU: https://in.nau.edu/nacp/
UA: https://cancercenter.arizona.edu/researchers/collaborative-research/nacp